

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 70

By Pody

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Head Coach Mark Purvis and the 2022 Watertown High School baseball team upon winning the TSSAA Division I, Class AA State Championship.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those student athletes who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as true champions of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Watertown High School baseball team have proven themselves to be the fiercest of competitors by winning the 2022 Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA) Division I, Class AA State Championship; and

WHEREAS, posting a tremendous season record of 29-9, the Watertown Tigers mauled their opponents in the playoffs, defeating Smith County 8-1 to claim the District 6AA Championship, besting York 5-2 to become Region 3AA Champions, and vanquishing Community 6-2 in the Sectionals to advance to the state tournament in Murfreesboro; and

WHEREAS, the Tigers continued to feast on their rivals in the state tournament by beating Loudon 1-0 and Loretto 10-3 and 3-0 to advance to the championship game, where they quickly pounced on Pigeon Forge to claim the title of state champions with a final score of 10-3; and

WHEREAS, the members of this championship team include seniors Alec Whitlock, Kaden Seay, Will Weir, Nathan Martinez, Brady Watts, Brayden Cousino, Lance Fripp, Mason Murrell, and Kendal Bayse; juniors K.J. Wood, Greer Davis, and Riley Creighton; sophomores Zack Self, Charlie Mitchell, Cyrus Bennett, Brycen Cousino, Bret Price, Kwame Seay, and Kaiden West; and freshmen Kamron West, Bo Price, Camden Johnson, Zeb Major, and Chase Young; and

WHEREAS, the Tigers collected multiple individual awards and honors during the 2022 season, as Mason Murrell, K.J. Wood, Kendal Bayse, Alec Whitlock, Kaden Seay, and Charlie Mitchell were named to the All State Tournament team; Kaden Seay, Cyrus Bennett, Lance Fripp, Charlie Mitchell, and Mason Murrell were named to the District All Tournament team; Kaden Seay, Mason Murrell, Zeb Major, K.J. Wood, and Brady Watts were named to the All District team; and Alec Whitlock, Kaden Seay, K.J. Wood, and Zeb Major were named to the All Midstate team; and

WHEREAS, Tiger Alec Whitlock was named District MVP and TBCA AA Player of the Year and was joined on the TBCA All State team by teammates Kaden Seay and K.J. Wood; and

WHEREAS, the Watertown Tigers enjoy the expertise and baseball knowledge of an outstanding group of coaches, led by TBCA AA and District Coach of the Year Mark Purvis and his staff, assistant coaches Lane Price, Cameron Jennings, Conner Grundy, and Dewayne Martin; and

WHEREAS, the Watertown baseball program benefits from the tremendous support of Principal Darian Brown, Athletic Director Ryan Hill, Athletic Trainer Carl Newton, and Field/Facility Director Ed Roberts; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Watertown High School baseball team epitomize all that is good in today's student athletes, as they have achieved a premier level of success in competition while exhibiting the highest degree of character in all aspects of life; and

WHEREAS, the perseverance, determination, work ethic, and talent of this group of young men not only made possible a championship season but also surely bode well for their success in every future endeavor; and

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly find it appropriate to pause in their deliberations to acknowledge and applaud the members of the Watertown High School baseball

team for their outstanding performance and for serving as examples of the exceptional quality of the youth of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Head Coach Mark Purvis and the 2022 Watertown High School baseball team on winning the TSSAA Division I, Class AA State Championship and extend to them our best wishes for every continued success in all their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.